

Antilocapra americana
pronghorn

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION RECORD

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Regional Office, Region 2

PLACED BY:	RECEIVED BY:	DATE:
Alla Shull	Ron Nowak	12/10/87

SUBJECT: Examination of Sonoran pronghorn skulls

CONVERSATION: He has looked at the 3 pronghorn skulls. Still inconclusive. He's completed a preliminary look - which took 2 afternoons. He said that Antilocapra americana sonoriensis is based on a single adult female from Sonora. He looked at that one and compared it to the two adult females and one adult male that had been sent to the Museum. The females in every character used in original description were unlike sonoriensis and more like mexicana. The two females sent were larger with larger teeth - like mexicana. Sonoriensis is usually smaller. But not clear-cut characteristics. The male was less clear-cut, but more like mexicana, doesn't differ from mexicana in any of the characteristics to distinguish the two.

To really conclude would need to do a full revision of the subspecies, look at all specimens of sonoriensis.

He also looked at the Crittendon specimen again and now he's not convinced that it is sonoriensis. In general, the subspecies may not be as clear.

The 3 specimens sent to the museum are much closer to typical mexicana than to typical sonoriensis, but he would not state that this is a final conclusion that he would publish in a scientific paper--that would require more. He didn't do a statistical analysis. It could take 2 full days to do a full set of measurements and that would only be a beginning to really doing an analysis. May require a full revision of the species or subspecies in the Southwest.

He also looked at some americana subspecies and said that they look substantially different.